

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 23 2005

32692

Customer Number

Patent
Case No.: 58313US003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: SETH, JAYSHREE

Application No.: 10/706530

Group Art Unit: 1772

Filed: November 12, 2003

Examiner: A. Thomas

Title: NET STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF MAKING

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENTCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR § 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

☐ deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.☒ transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306. (2 pgs)March 23, 2005
Date

Signed by: Judy L. Hansen

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2005. Claims 1-60 are pending. Claims 1-60 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-19 and 27-52 are said to be drawn to a product, classified in Class 428, subclass 105;
- II. Claims 20-26 and 53-60 are said to be drawn to a process, classified in Class 264.

Election

In response, Applicants elect Group II, with traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

In Group II. Applicants broadly claim a method of forming a thermoplastic netting.

Applicants submit that the Groups I and II claims are so interrelated that a search of one group of claims will reveal art to the other. Moreover, the classification of Groups I and II claims in different classes and subclasses is not sufficient grounds to require restriction.

Were restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, a separate examination of the claims in Groups I and II would require substantial duplication of work on the

Application No.: 10/706530

Case No.: 58313US003

part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Further, Applicants submit that for restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, it would place an undue burden by requiring payment of a separate filing fee for examination of the nonelected claims, as well as the added costs associated with prosecuting two applications and maintaining two patents.

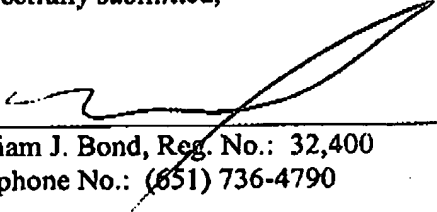
Conclusion

Applicants have elected Group II. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

March 23, 2005
Date

By: 
William J. Bond, Reg. No.: 32,400
Telephone No.: (651) 736-4790

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833